

CHRIS KYLE MEDAL OF HONOR
ACT

(Mr. WILLIAMS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I introduced a bill that would authorize and request the President to award our Nation's highest military honor to a Texan who served this Nation with distinction and bravery.

Chris Kyle, a Navy SEAL, protected countless American troops as they went into battle. Chris Kyle voluntarily put his life on the line when he completed his first tour in Iraq, and when he returned not once, but three more times.

Make no mistake, the Medal of Honor will not bring back a husband, father, son, and a model Texan. But the Medal of Honor will show Chris Kyle's family our gratitude for his relentless devotion to our country.

Mr. Speaker, since its inception, the Medal of Honor has been awarded 3,507 times. I challenge someone to tell me Chris Kyle didn't show the bravery that is a prerequisite for this high honor. I challenge anyone to tell me that his courageous acts are undeserving of this recognition.

Chris Kyle is someone who we should strive to be. He is a true American patriot whose acts of valor must be permanently etched in our Nation's history.

In God we trust.

CENTRAL KITSAP IMPACT AID

(Mr. KILMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the importance of impact aid, which helps more than 1,300 school districts in our country make up for lost revenue due to the impact of Federal activity and Federal lands that reduce the available tax base.

Among the most heavily impacted districts in the country, the Central Kitsap School District is home to many students whose parents work at naval facilities. For too long, this school district has not received the heavy impact aid funding that it has historically relied on to support these military-connected kids.

I would like to thank the Education and the Workforce Committee Ranking Member Mr. SCOTT for working with me to include a provision in an amendment that we will soon consider to help school districts like Central Kitsap get the impact aid funding they rely on.

I look forward to working with the committee and our colleagues in the Senate to include this provision in any final legislation that reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Mr. Speaker, this is important to kids.

HONORING ALLEN HARRINGTON

(Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about an American hero.

Allen Harrington of Anderson, Indiana, was one of the Nation's first African American Marines. He and his fellow Montford Point Marines broke the U.S. Marine Corps color barrier during World War II. Mr. Harrington specifically worked in an ammunition factory and aided efforts to rescue prisoners of war being held by the Japanese.

How many Americans can say they broke racial barriers while serving our country when the future of the free world was on the line? Allen Harrington could.

Unfortunately, he passed away in 2002, 9 years before legislation was passed awarding living members of the Montford Point Marines the Congressional Gold Medal.

This weekend, residents of Anderson and his family will gather at city hall to pay tribute to his tremendous legacy. I look forward to presenting his daughter, Darlene, a special certificate and letter from the President and a replica Montford Point Marine medal.

I am proud to know this American hero hails from Indiana's Fifth District. I am even more proud his remarkable life will finally receive the recognition it deserves.

DHS SHUTDOWN

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, once again, the Republicans have brought us to the brink of a government shutdown, this time, the Department of Homeland Security.

For weeks, the Department specifically designed to keep America and Americans safe has been forced to spend time and resources making plans to lay off 30,000 workers and stop paychecks for hundreds of thousands of critical workers like the Coast Guard and Border Patrol agents and TSA at the airports.

Why are they on this dangerous mission? So they can continue their futile and cruel war against immigrant children and families.

Now I hear they will try to put the Department of Homeland Security back in limbo for another 3 weeks while they figure out some other mischief. This is reckless. This is irresponsible and dangerous.

Shame on the Republicans for doing this. Stop it. Just pass a clean bill for a continuous funding of the Department of Homeland Security.

RARE DISEASE DAY

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow is Rare Disease Day, and I stand to help raise awareness for more than 7,000 different types of different rare diseases and disorders that affect more than 300 million people nationwide.

Today, the National Institutes of Health is celebrating its eighth annual Rare Disease Day, and I applaud their efforts to bring awareness to this very important issue.

Mr. Speaker, in the United States, a condition is considered rare if it affects fewer than 200,000 people combined in a particular group. In the U.S. today, there are approximately 30 million people living with rare disease, many of whom are inflicted with diseases whose symptoms are so complex that they simply remain undiagnosed. It is estimated that 80 percent of rare diseases are genetic in origin, and about half of all rare diseases affect children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me not just today but every day in helping to raise awareness on this very important issue that affects so many people in this Nation and around the world.

DHS SHUTDOWN

(Mr. PETERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge House Republican leadership to put a clean bill to fund the Department of Homeland Security on the floor for a vote.

It is our job to lead this great Nation, and America deserves better than political gamesmanship. The threats facing our country are real. The Department of Homeland Security is on the front lines making sure our communities are safe. They secure our boarders and ports and ensure airports are safe for millions of travelers.

If Congress fails to fund DHS, 169,000 Border Patrol agents, Customs and Border Protection officers, TSA aviation and security screeners, and Active Duty Coast Guard military will report to work but will not receive a paycheck. And that is just wrong.

I joined several of my colleagues this week to introduce legislation to withhold congressional pay if Homeland Security is shut down. It is simple: if the hardworking men and women in the Department of Homeland Security will continue to go to work but not receive a paycheck, Members of Congress who have failed to do their job should not receive a paycheck either.

Let's do the right thing. Cleanly fund our Homeland Security and quit political gamesmanship.

RECOGNIZING NICHOLAS BENNETT

(Mr. COLLINS of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Nicholas Bennett for making his 1,000th half-court basketball shot on Saturday, January 24.

Let me say it is not the shot that is impressive, it is Nicholas. You see, Nicholas, a senior at North Hall High School who also has autism, has been manager of his school's varsity basketball team for 4 years. As a freshman, he made it his goal to sink 1,000 half-court shots by graduation. He has amazed his teammates by consistently making those on the way to fulfilling his promise.

Nicholas got his first-ever starting opportunity at the North Hall-Gainesville basketball game last month. He scored on the opening play and sunk his 1,000th half-court shot during half-time.

One of those people who impresses you the minute you meet him, Nicholas' kindness, determination, and dedication to his team are an inspiration. His motto is "have faith," and it speaks to northeast Georgia's core values.

Today, I join with the Ninth District in recognizing Nicholas' outstanding character and wish him the best in his future endeavors. Sometimes it is not about the shots; it is about the person making the shots. And Nicholas, you remind us to have faith.

DHS SHUTDOWN

(Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call out my Republican colleagues for abandoning their duty to govern and protect our national security.

We are just hours away from asking 200,000 DHS employees who protect our country to go without pay because Republicans can't get their act together. A DHS shutdown doesn't protect us from national security threats, and it certainly doesn't solve our disagreements over immigration policy. This is nothing more than a tantrum, but even my 5-year-old son knows that tantrums are a waste of time.

It is time to grow up and govern. Will you listen to the extremists in your party who are focused on obstruction of progress, or will you listen to the majority of Americans who want us to fund DHS, want us to act on comprehensive immigration reform, and want us to govern like adults?

I urge my colleagues to pass a clean DHS funding bill.

□ 0915

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL ONE MINUTE

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend my remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will not entertain that request at this time.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. POLIS. Point of parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, who objected to the motion?

I did not hear an objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announced that he would entertain five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side, and all those five requests have been entertained.

Mr. POLIS. Point of parliamentary inquiry. If I receive unanimous consent for a sixth request, am I not able to give that request under the rules of the House?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair is exercising his discretion not to recognize for more than five 1-minute speeches on each side.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess for a period of less than 15 minutes.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 19 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 0925

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HULTGREN) at 9 o'clock and 25 minutes a.m.

FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION, 2015

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 129 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 129

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 35) making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the joint resolution are waived. The joint resolution shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the joint resolution are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations; and (2) one motion to recommend.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Georgia is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I

yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a rule and the underlying bill that would provide for funding for the Department of Homeland Security for 3 weeks.

This short, six-line resolution, House Joint Resolution 35, would provide certainty by taking a shutdown of the Department of Homeland Security off the table.

So why are we here today? We are here because, last year, the President brought forward a plan to grant executive amnesty to over 4 million illegal immigrants. I believe that the administration's actions violate the rule of law, circumvent the role of the American people, and undermine the Constitution.

These actions have failed the American people. Over the last few years, the President's immigration policies have cost the Federal Government millions of dollars. They have cost our States, our communities, and our local schools and hospitals millions more.

I disagree with executive amnesty because I believe it is unwise, unlawful, and unconstitutional. That is why, 6 weeks ago, the House of Representatives did its job. We passed a bill that provided for the funding of the Department of Homeland Security and blocked the President's executive amnesty actions.

We had an expectation that the Senate would then do its work, stand up for the Constitution, while funding the Department of Homeland Security. Unfortunately, Senate Democrats, including numerous Senators who have argued repeatedly that no President can unilaterally change the law, have blocked that bill.

That is why we are here today: because Senate Democrats refuse to stand up and fight on behalf of the Constitution against the President's executive amnesty plan. We would not be here with a short-term solution if six—only six—Senate Democrats would stand up for the American people and stop the President's executive amnesty plan.

Fortunately, Mr. Speaker, the State of Texas and others, including my great home State of Georgia, stepped up to the plate and led a lawsuit with other States against the President and his unilateral actions. A judge in Texas ruled on that case 11 days ago and said that the President's November executive amnesty action was illegal.